

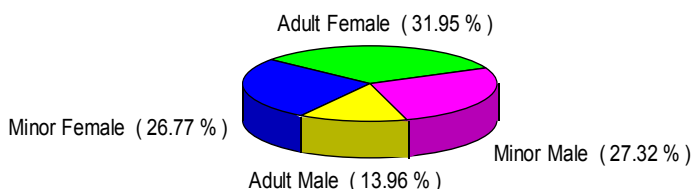
# Wisconsin Food Stamp Program At a Glance

All data is for (or as of) the month of February, 2002<sup>1</sup>

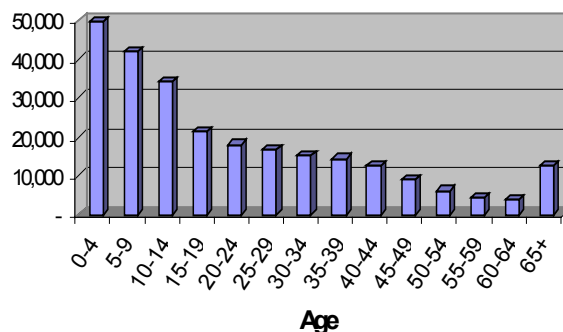
## Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

- **Poverty:** 4.9% of the 5.3 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.<sup>2</sup> On average over the past three years, 8.8% of the state population is at or below the federal poverty rate.<sup>3</sup>
- **Assistance Groups (AGs)/Individuals:** 105,447 Assistance groups are made up of 260,007 individuals. The AG size increased 1.1% from last month. There are an average of 2.5 people in an AG.
- **Gender:** 59% are female and 41% are male.
- **Adults/Minors:** 46% are adults while 54% are minors. 58% of AGs have minors in them.
- **Minors and their parents:** Of the AG's that contain minors, 74.5% have one parent in the AG, 22.8% have two parents, and 2.7% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological parent. Of the 140,649 minors that receive FS, 3.5% do not have a biological parent in the household.
- **Parents That Are Minors:** 936 minors in 919 FS AGs are parents. That's 1/3 of 1 percent of the individuals that receive FS. Or, it's less than 1% of all minors that get FS.
- **Age distribution:** This chart shows the number of FS recipients by age, in ranges of 5 years. The largest age group is comprised of children under age 4.

Adult Status and Gender Chart



FS Recipients Age Distribution



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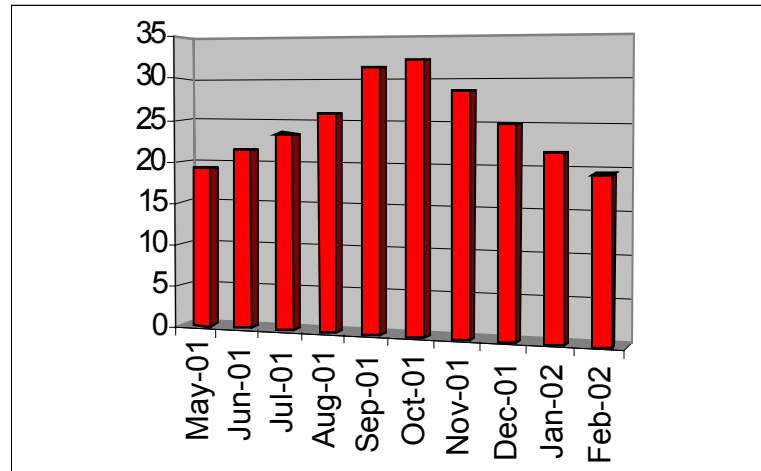
<sup>1</sup> Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

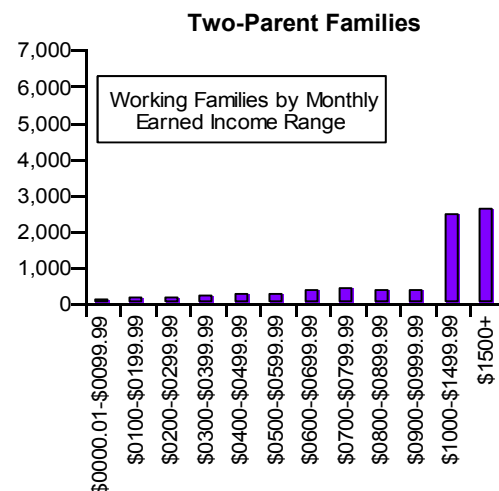
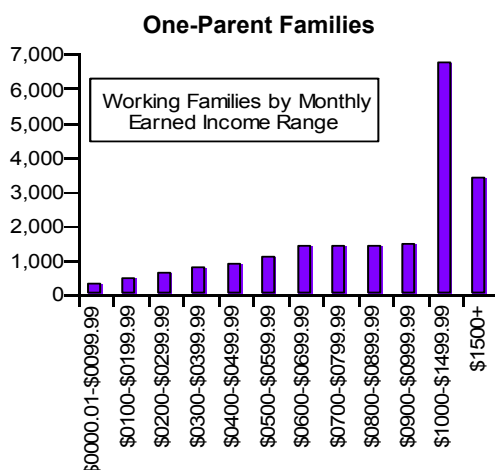
<sup>3</sup> Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

- **Elderly/Disabled:** 17.2% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 42% of AGs contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled.
- **Work/Earnings:** 19.3% of the AGs have at least one person working. This is a decrease of 2.4% from last month, which decreased 3.1% from the month before. The average monthly earned income of those AGs' is \$956, a reduction on average of \$19 per AG from last month.<sup>4</sup> 31% of adult FS recipients are employed. Currently, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 5.8%.<sup>5</sup>

% of FS AGs with at least one employed individual



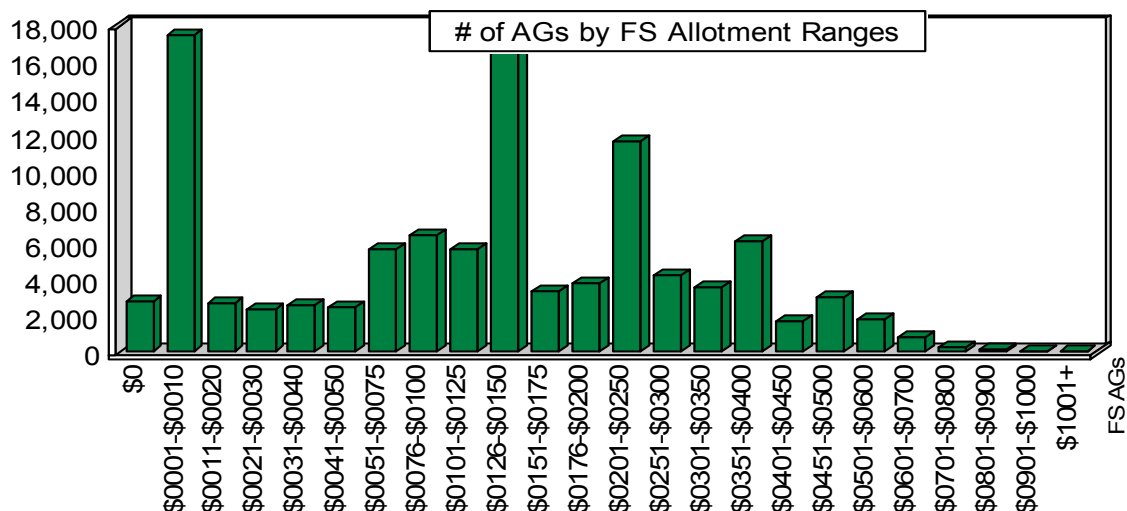
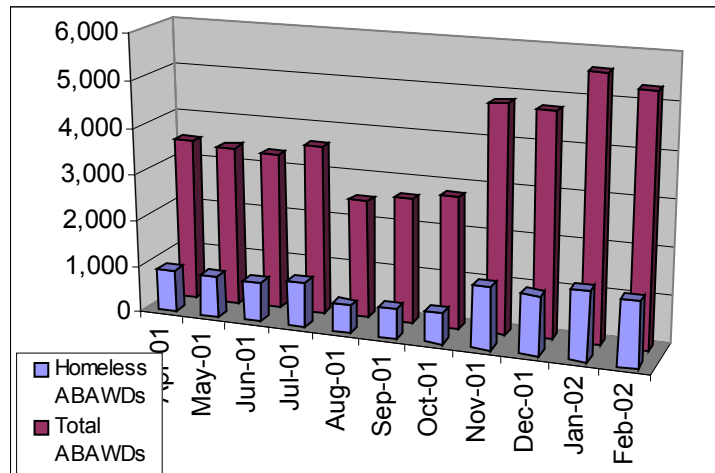
- **Working Families:** A "working family" is defined as a FS AG that contains at least one minor, at least one parent of a minor, and at least one employed recipient. This is an attempt to explore those FS recipients that have children and are able to work. Working families make up 26.9% of the statewide FS AGs, average 3.7 persons per AG, and average \$1,084 in earned income per month. Earned income ranges for one and two parent families are available below.



<sup>4</sup> This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility or the allotment amount.

<sup>5</sup> Source: DWD Employment Data News Release at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dwd/newsreleases/2002/042402a.htm>

- **Able Bodied Adults (With or Without Dependents) and Employment:** 44% of Able Bodied Adult FS recipients (non elderly, non-disabled adults) are employed. These individuals may or may not have children. Contrast this with Able Bodied Adults *Without* Dependents below.
- **Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs):** 5,307 individuals are ABAWDS. That's 2% of the FS recipients. The number of ABAWDS decreased by 285 from last month. Only 11.5% of ABAWDS are employed. 69% of ABAWDS are male, 31% are female. 26% of ABAWDS are homeless, a 1% decrease from last month. Forty one individuals have received 3 ABAWD strikes and are now ineligible for FS until November 30, or until they cooperate with work requirements.
- **Allotments:** A total of over \$16.7 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$159. The average allotment for AGs that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member is \$94. However, 19.2% of the caseload only receives between \$0 and \$10 in allotments.



### Allotments continued:

Allotments have increased 29% since April of 2001. AG's and recipients have increased 21% and 19.8% respectively over the same time range.

- **Homelessness:** 4,372 FS recipients were homeless in January. That's 1.7% of all FS recipients. The number of homeless recipients jumped sharply from October to November by 1,600 individuals and the rate of homeless FS recipients has remained about the same since then.

